

William Marceron Building  
1335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington (Georgetown)  
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-107

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GEO  
67-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
1730 North Lynn Street  
Arlington, Virginia

## WILLIAM MARCERON BUILDING

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Location: 1335 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(Note: Prior to 1881, Wisconsin Avenue was called High Street and had different address numbers. From 1881 to 1906, Wisconsin Avenue was known as 32nd Street and had present address numbers.)

Present Owner: Helanah H. Allen

Present Occupant: Le Hi Grill

Present Use: Grill and Bar

Statement of Significance: This is an excellent example of a one-story commercial building of c. 1890 with architectural embellishments and a permanent awning.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The building is located in Square 1232, lot 6 in Beatty and Hawkins Addition to Georgetown. The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. References are to the records in the Recorder of Deeds Office, District of Columbia.

1809 Tax deed February 12, 1809 recorded in  
Liber X folio 256  
Assessed to Horatio and Benjamin Clagett

1810 Deed February 1, 1810 recorded in Liber X  
folio 399  
John M. Beatty and wife Letty  
To  
Charles A. Beatty

1810 Deed August 15, 1810 recorded December 11, 1810  
in Liber Z folio 269  
Mrs. Ann Maria Davidson, widow and sole executrix  
of John Davidson, deceased  
To  
John Lutz

1810 Deed November 15, 1810 recorded December 11, 1810  
in Liber Z folio 270  
Charles A. Beatty and wife Eunice  
To  
John Lutz

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Recites that Charles A. Beatty in consideration that the said John Lutz hath produced to him the ticket No. 139 which drew the lot of ground No. 6 in B. and H. addition to Georgetown and also hath paid to the administrators of the late Charles Beatty, deceased, the sum of \$64 due to his estate for and on account of the same lot.

- 1820 Deed August 7, 1820 recorded November 7, 1820 in  
Liber AY folio 452  
Samuel B. Beall  
To  
Gustavus Beall
- 1821 Deed April 28, 1821 recorded April 30, 1821 in  
Liber WB 4 folio 47  
Guatavus Beall  
To  
Thomas C. Wright
- 1851 Deed May 31, 1851 recorded June 9, 1851 in Liber  
JAS 25 folio 210  
Francis A. Lutz et ux Mary Ann  
John S. Lutz et ux Malvina  
Morris Adler et ux Malvina  
Nathaniel Marden et ux Mary Ann  
Charles Myers et ux Jane C.  
Martha D. Lutz  
(heirs of John Lutz, deceased)  
To  
Jenkins Thomas  
(sold at auction)
- 1960 Deed April 12, 1960 recorded in  
Liber 9891  
William S. Marceron  
Elizabeth E. Marceron  
trustees of Mabel L. Marceron, deceased,  
who was the surviving tenant by entirety of  
her husband William A. Marceron, deceased.  
To  
Helenah H. Allen  
[The same property was sold to Katherine L.  
Allen by said Mabel L. Marceron before her  
death under contract dated January 12, 1960]

2. Date of erection: Probably 1890  
[The Georgetown August 25, 1960 "Mr. George Scheele,  
an old resident, claims that a man named Robert Weaver  
had a meat market there in 1890 and that the building  
was erected at that time."]
3. Architect: Not known.

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4. Original plans, construction, etc.: None known.
  5. Notes on alterations and additions: No records for this building were found in the Building Permit Department, District Building, District of Columbia.
  6. Important old views: None known.
- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

Washington directories provide the following tenant information:

1821	Joseph Brewer
1896	Walters not listed
1900-1918	Charles H. Walters, grocer
1919	J. W. Pumphrey, grocer
1920	Vacant
1921-1927	Frank F. Kidwell, grocer
1928	Joshua E. Goodwin, grocer
1929	Vacant
1930-1933	Payne's Millinery (Lillian Payne)
1934-1937	Jules E. Ebel, restaurant
1938	John L. Fleharty, restaurant
1939-1954	Thomas J. Connors, restaurant

A former building on the site was known as Jackson's Feed Store [The Georgetown August 25, 1960]

Prepared by Dr. James Philip Noffainger  
Architect  
National Park Service  
August 17, 1966

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: William Marceron Building is an example of one-story store without living quarters for merchant. Notable features are brick arcade and original pipe-supported fixed awning.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair to good. Fabric is generally sound, but awning is not well-maintained, and modern addenda (signs, etc.) detract from appearance.

### B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Dumbarton Street elevation: 25'-9 1/2"; corner elevation: 9'-7"; Wisconsin Avenue elevation: 34'-5"; one story in height.

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2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Smooth-finished red face brick (painted white on Wisconsin Avenue elevation and corner bay) is laid in common bond. Brick piers of arcade are banded in granite. Brick arches (third and fourth of five courses are bevelled) spring from behind outer plane of piers.
4. Chimneys: Small brick chimney (1'-4" square) at north-east corner of structure; clay chimney hood.
5. Openings:
  - e. Doorways and doors: Wisconsin Avenue entrance has modern wooden framing within round-arched opening. Present double wooden single-paned doors are rather underscaled for size of masonry opening. Segmental-arched 5'-0"-wide doorway on Dumbarton Street elevation has been sealed up with wood. Evidence of original transom remains.
  - b. Windows and shutters: Single-paned windows are set in simple wooden frames above wooden panels resting on stone sills; semicircular single-paned transoms fill brick arches. No shutters.
6. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Flat built-up roof.
  - b. Framing: Wood; major beam traverses interior space from the midpoints of north and south walls.
  - c. Awning: Three-sectioned wooden awning is roofed with corrugated metal and supported by curvilinear iron pipe framework springing from granite corbels set in wall.
  - d. Cornice, eaves: Very ample tin cornice is little more than fleshing; rectangular vents below eaves have cast-iron grilles.
  - e. Dormers: None.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plan: Major space (original building) is unbroken single room. Later additions form compartments behind.
2. Stairways: None.

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3. Flooring: Modern tile flooring; original is apparently stone or concrete.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls are plastered above oak wainscoting. Original cornice and ceiling of narrow match-boarding, which also sheathes structural beam crossing room.
5. Doorways and doors: Simple wooden door at rear is framed in dark oak.
6. Trim: Dark oak wainscoting on walls approximately 6' in height. Doors, bar (on south wall) and trim are also dark oak, heavy in character, and simple in design. Booths along north wall are similar.
7. Hardware: None of any significance.
8. Lighting: No original fixtures extant; lighting is effected by means of contemporary advertising displays and fluorescent tube behind bar.
9. Central heating probably dates well after building, as evidenced by exposed sheet-metal duct in southwest corner of interior.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Located on the southeast corner of Wisconsin and Dumbarton Avenue N.W., the structure is in the midst of Georgetown's busy commercial area along Wisconsin Avenue.
2. Enclosures: Wooden fence of 1/2" x 12" boards along eastern boundaries of lot.
3. Outbuildings: Frame ell attached to east wall of building (along Dumbarton Avenue) is sheathed in imitation-brick tin painted white.
4. Walks: Abuts concrete public sidewalks on the north and west.
5. Landscaping: None.

Prepared by Thomas R. Martinson  
Student Assistant Architect  
National Park Service  
August 9, 1966